बड़ी मात्रा में बिजली की कटौती की जाती है और उन कारखानों को बहुत ऊंचे मूल्यों पर बाहर से बिजली लेनी पड़ती है । इससे उनका उत्पादन मूल्य बहुत बढ़ जाता है और इसलिये ऐसे कच्चे माल का उत्पादन देश में करने के स्थान पर उनको बाहर से मंगाना पड़ता है । तो . . . (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : आपको जवाब नहीं चाहिये क्या ?

डा० रत्नाकर पांडेय : इस संदर्भ में क्या किया जा रहा है यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं ।

श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी : माननीया, हमें पूरी सहानुभूति है, हमें दुख भी है कि ये मौत के कगार की ओर तीव्रता से अग्रसर हो रहे हैं यदि हम इसको रोक सकते तो इसको रोक लेते । पर यह, जैसा कि मैंने पहले भी कहा है कि यह राज्य सरकार की ओर से है । फिर भी हम लोग उड़ीसा सरकार से इस बारे में बात करेंगे और देखेंगे कि इसके लिये क्या प्रयास किया जा सकता है । यदि माननीय सदस्य हमको धन दे दें तो शायद हम ज्यादा बिजली का उत्पादन कर सकें और ज्यादा बिजली इन लोगों को उपलब्ध करा सकें ।

SHRI P. BABUL REDDY : Madam, it is well known that there is chronic deficiency in power in our country. Even States like Andhra Pradesh which are supposed to be surplus impose cuts during summer and when there is failure of monsoon. Under these circumstances, categorisation of industries as power-intensive carries with it certain obligations and difficulties. Therefore, there should be specific guidelines. It should not be according to the foot of the Chancellor. Lack of guidelines would lead to discrimination. I find from the answer that they do not have specific guidelines. They merely say significant consumption. This does not satisfy us. I would like to know whether the Government will issue specific, categorical, guidelines in this matter.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : Madam, I have already answered this. Guidelines are guidelines. It is for the State Governments to carry them out or change them.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Black Marketing of LPG Refills

*382. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the black-marketing of LPG refills in the country;

(b) whether the main reason for black-marketing is the existence of more than 25 per cent unauthorised LPG connections in the country;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made as to how the refills are obtained for such connections; and

(d) whether Government are considering regularisation of these connections; if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Government are aware that there exist some fake or unauthorised LPG connections.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Supply of refills by unauthorised consumers is believed to be obtained through unscrupulous elements in the distribution network besides holders of double-bottle connections.

(d) The oil companies can regularise those irregular connections where the connection is not in the name of the holder but of someone else; this is done after due verification and after obtaining a letter of authority from the formal holder of the connection.